AUS 1 7 2000 W

Docket No. 55250USALA.002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

· , ,

In re Application of:

GERALD M. BENSON and KENNETH L. SMITH

Serial No.: 09/515,978

Filed: February 25, 2000

For: A COMPOUND MOLD AND

STRUCTURED SURFACE ARTICLES CONTAINING GEOMETRIC STRUCTURES

WITH COMPOUND FACES AND METHOD OF MAKING SAME

772

Group Art Unit: 1722

Examiner:

RECEIVED
AUG 22 2000
C 1700 MAIL ROOM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

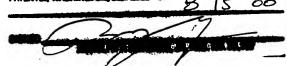
Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. Sections 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants wish to call to the Examiner's attention the attached references, which generally relate to the present invention.

The Examiner's attention is also directed to the following co-pending, co-assigned U.S. Patent applications: USSN 08/886,074, filed July 2, 1997 and USSN 09/515,120, filed February 25, 2000.

United States Patent Nos. 1,591,572; 3,684,348; 3,712,706; 3,924,928; 3,926,402; 4,095,773; 4,588,258; 4,601,861; 4,775,219; 4,895,428; 5,156,863; 5,450,235; 5,600,484; 5,696,627; 5,734,501; 5,812,315; 5,822,121; JP 8-309851; WO 95/11464; and WO 97/04939; are referenced in the present application. The remaining documents are generally relevant to the state of the art.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSIT-ED WITH THE UNITED STATE POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS. WASHINGTON, Q.C. SEETI ON



It should also be noted that U.S. Patent No. 6,010,609 corresponds to WO 97/04939.

Applicants submit that the above references, whether taken alone or in combination with each other neither anticipate nor render obvious the present invention. Consideration of the foregoing in relation to the captioned application is respectfully requested.

Should a First Office Action on the merits be mailed prior to the filing of this Disclosure Statement, please charge the requisite \$240.00 fee (pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97(c) and 1.17(p)) to Deposit Account No. 13-3723.

Also enclosed is PTO Form FB-A820 listing each of the above references.

Respectfully submitted,

RUDOLPH P. HOFMANN, JR. Registration No. 38,187 Attorney for Applicants

RPH:jlh/55250-1A IDS
Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
P.O. Box 33427
St. Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427
(651) 736-9725
Facsimile: (651) 736-3833

Dated: August 15, 2000

and the